



Meeting Notes
Drinking Water Advisory
March 1, 2021

Attending 119

Agenda Item	Notes
2. Legislative Update Brian Wash, Policy and Planning Section Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Following about 40 bills.<ul style="list-style-type: none">March 9 is cutoff for bills to move from house of origin.HB1337: Died in committee, but connection fee limit language added to SHB1220, section 5.Lead in schools: clarifies responsibility for lead in schools.
3. ODW Updates Mike Means, Office Director	<p>Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">ODW staff heavily involved in COVID-19 response. Lots of turnover in ODW: Derek Pell leaving HQ; Sam Perry now at EPA; Bob James retired, but came back to help out (thanks, Bob!).Water Use planning process. May 15 hearing.UTC extended moratorium on consumer disconnections until July. Meeting later this week with Joe Laxon. What does it mean to step away from moratorium, address unpaid water bills.PFAS moving forward with rulemaking process. EPA moving forward with determinations. Will take several years.Capacity development: Immediate needs to meet Federal requirements? Want to use DWAG meetings to get feedback.Sanitary Surveys in five-year cycle; 2020 was a heavy year and many put on hold due to COVID. Will use 2021 to catch up.
4. Training and Outreach Updates Bill Bernier, Training and Outreach Program Manager; Ingrid Salmon, Outreach Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">H2Ops and Water Tap newsletters on hold. Looking at electronic only distribution and blog option, wants a conversation/feedback on what they would like/need.Mostly positive response to electronic distribution, some interest in blog webpage.New ways to reach potential future operators.
5. PFAS Rulemaking Updates Jocelyn Jones, Rulemaking Program Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Used in a lot of products, bio-accumulative and toxic. Known areas in WA state with contaminated groundwater—firefighting foam/training areas. Four major areas, plus two new sites.Revised SALs. Provided a range of values.
6. COVID 19 Utility Experience/Panel Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Andrew Lee, Deputy Director, Seattle Public Utilities.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sixty-three percent of employees covered under Tier 1 and 2 COOP. Had most COVID procedures in place by May.



Moderator Derek Pell, Deputy Director of Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Jeff Johnson, retired from Spanaway, now works for Co-Op group. Restricted office access to employees only, used drop box. Used website to interact with customers/public.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Expanded ways to make payments (online, phone) to simplify office operations.○ Split employees into two groups. One to shelter in place by week; be available for work other week. No loss of pay, etc. Board met and approved.○ Someone processed mail—sealed in bag and let sit for two days before opening by masked/gloved employee. Other materials sit in lobby for 48 hours before handling.○ Utility and Co-op does routine billings and letters letting customers know that program is available. Tenants: send CC to property owner, so that owner knows what's going on. Past due bills transfer from tenant to owner to any new owner.○ Positive cases: quarantine for two weeks, testing three days before.○ Maximized outside air coming in and upgraded furnace filters to HPPA filters.○ SSB 1421: property owner/tenant liability. Removes owner liability for tenant past due bills. Concern for cities. Would like extended to all utilities. Customer Assistance Programs. Collect in first 12 months, afterward waived.○ If water systems have school buildings in their service, ensure operators work with school administrators to properly restart water service.◆ Chris McCord: Mike is meeting with the Governor's office on 3/4. Moratorium ends on April 30 and is extended through May. Other through July 31. \$500 million available nationally for low income help.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Any funds ODW receives will be administered through the DWSRF.○ Funding assistance for opps. \$14mm left out of \$400mm. On hold during session. Contact legislators about spending.
7. DWSRF Update Janet Cherry, DWSRF Program Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Construction, preconstruction, consolidation (grants), water main replacement, emergency loans.◆ Online applications. Preconstruction and construction of water infrastructure improvements.◆ Working on apps from Oct/Nov 2020. Up to \$5 million per jurisdiction.◆ Preconstruction loans: Open year-round; \$500K per loan. Bonus points awarded for construction loan cycle if you secured a preconstruction loan.◆ Water Main Replacement: Apps accepted Aug 2021. Up to \$1 million. Fund preconstruction and construction activities. Reserved for Group A not-for-profit community WS serving fewer than 10K people.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Implemented to help small WS fund water main replacement projects.◆ Consolidation Feasibility Study Grants: Applications accepted Aug 2021. Up to \$30K. Provide letters of commitment with all applicants and all parties.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Emergency Loan-accepted year-round. Our definition of an emergency is any time a system is out of water. Limited to smaller systems. Don't need a current planning document.◆ EPA Needs Assessment this year, working on that for future funding.
8. Agenda Ideas for next Meeting Brian Walsh	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Next meeting June 7.◆ Jeff Johnson: Customer Assistance Program and moratorium updates.◆ Lead and Copper Rule DOH interpretation.◆ Lead and Copper, School rule, and other rules that might move forward.◆ New Legionella webpage.◆ Capacity Development update.